

mother, on the ground of direct rivalry with her in relation to the father, and their phantasy of what the father does to the mother. It is to be remembered that both Frank and Benjie were difficult children, Benjie being a quite unusually hostile and unhappy child. These highly sadistic phantasies do occur in more normal children, but are in them in much less need of open expression ; the child can (for a variety of reasons) deal with them more effectively by his real knowledge and experience of love.

A further phantasy of little children illustrated here is their notion that babies are made from the general contents of the mother's body, namely, food and faeces. When Frank asks Miss B., " When we buy babies, do we have to pay for them ? " we are struck by the curious form of the question. In fact, we know from similar remarks in many other contexts, that Frank is expressing the anal notion of how babies are made—and, in especial, his anxiety that if he gets babies for himself from his mother, he will have to give back something in return from the inside of his own body. His wish is to get something for nothing, to get all the good that he can from his mother for himself, including the babies and his father's love; but his dread, connected with early experiences in the training of anal habits, is that his mother will demand retribution, and take away everything good from him in return.

Y.'s idea that he is growing a baby in his inside, quoted on p. 161 (" Mummy, I'm growing a baby sister." *Oh, no, Y., you can't do that.* Well, then, it's a baby brother. *Oh, no, you can't grow babies—only Mummies can do that.* Well, Mummy, there's *something* happening in my tummy!) follows upon the cat's giving birth to kittens the day before.

He was obviously wishful himself to create in this way, on the basis of his love for his father and identification with his mother. When his mother denied him this possibility by saying that "only Mummies can do that" the baby that he believed he had inside him became a forbidden, therefore a stolen one, therefore a bad one, therefore one that would make him ill—and he was actually sick. (No physical cause was known.)

The boy and girl twins (p. 161) show us the same phantasy that both boy and girl can have children. A further detail of a universal phantasy about children is shown by these two, namely, the idea that the baby is born from the anus—the so-called cloaca! theory of birth.* This boy also believed